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RCE/1754

PTO/SB/30 (01-03)

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Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/781,931
Filing Date	02/12/2001
First Named Inventor	Fincke et al
Art Unit	1754
Examiner Name	J. Strickland
Attorney Docket Number	B-026

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

a. Previously submitted

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
- Other _____

b. Enclosed

I. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	iii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)	iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a. Deposit Account No. 050565

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)	03/04/2004	HUJONG1	00000106	050565	09781931
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)	01 FC:1801	770.00	DA		
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____					

b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Stephen B. Christian	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	32,687
Signature		Date	24 FEB 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Mandy Landon	Date	24 FEB 2004
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Fincke et al.

Serial No.: 09/781,931

Filed: February 12, 2001

For: THERMAL SYNTHESIS
APPARATUS AND METHOD

Confirmation No.: 1785

Examiner: J. Strickland

Group Art Unit: 1754

Attorney Docket No.: B-026

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

2/26/04

Signature

Mandy Landon

Name (Type/Print)

AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are filed in response to the Examiner's remarks in the Final Office Action mailed December 29, 2003, the three-month shortened statutory period for response to which expires on March 29, 2004.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.